

Ignatian Leadership and Discernment, Minor

The Ignatian Leadership and Discernment minor is designed to cultivate leaders who embody the Jesuit values of faith, justice and service. Combining academic rigor with practical application, the program equips students with the knowledge, skills and spiritual grounding to lead with integrity and purpose in diverse personal and professional contexts.

The minor emphasizes the principles of Ignatian discernment, a reflective process that integrates self-awareness, ethical decision-making and a commitment to the common good.

Key themes include a theological understanding of the human person, developing the skills of recognizing and responding to the "spirits" that move within us and our communities, developing skills in leadership, collaboration, adaptability and fostering inclusive communities. The curriculum is complemented by experiential learning opportunities, including a two-term internship where students receive, and then provide, spiritual direction.

Open to students across all majors, this minor prepares individuals to become reflective and innovative leaders capable of inspiring positive change. Whether pursuing careers in business, education, healthcare, nonprofit work, or beyond, students graduate with the confidence and clarity to lead with compassion, authenticity and a commitment to justice. However, Students major in Theology and Religious studies are not eligible to complete this minor.

The Ignatian Leadership and Discernment minor offers students a transformative education in leadership inspired by the Jesuit tradition. The minor is rooted in the Catholic intellectual tradition and provides an opportunity for students to become reflective, values-driven leaders equipped to make meaningful contributions to their communities and professions.

Central to the minor is the practice of Ignatian discernment, a reflective process rooted in self-awareness, critical thinking and a commitment to the common good. Students explore themes such as ethical decision-making, collaboration, adaptability and the integration of faith and justice in leadership.

Through course work, experiential learning and mentorship, students develop practical skills and a deeper understanding of leadership as service. The minor is ideal for students from any discipline who aspire to lead with integrity, foster collaboration and effect positive change in diverse and complex environments.

Code	Title	Hours
Required courses:		
THEO 3280	The Life and Teachings of Saint Ignatius of Loyola	3
THEO 3290	Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius	3
THEO 3986	Internship in Theology (completed over two terms, Junior year)	6
Elective courses:		6
THEO 3250	Contemplation and Action	
THEO 3340	Art and the Theological Imagination	
THEO 3375	Pivotal Texts and Thinkers (Topic: Ignation Leadership, 1.5 crs.)	
THEO 3375	Pivotal Texts and Thinkers (Topic: Ignation Discernment, 1.5 crs.)	
THEO 3400	Catholic Belief and Practice	
THEO 4240	Theology in the Reformation Era	
THEO 4230	Theology in the Middle Ages	
Total Credit Hours:		18

Note: Students majoring in Theology and Religious Studies are not eligible to complete the IGLD minor, although all IGLD courses do count toward the theology major.

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